

East County Citizens Advisory Board (ECCAB)
Eastern Montgomery Regional Center
3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904

Wednesday, October 3, 2018

MEETING SUMMARY

Members Present: William Bentley, Samantha Blizzard, Christopher Bolton, Kenneth Flemmer, Donald Hague, Margretta Hall, Wendy Johnson, Kristina McConnell, Kimberly Price-Evans, Richard Romer, Jerold Samet, Hildegard Sylla, John Smith

Guests Present: Andre Vainqueur, Margie Georgen-Rood, Ed Weiler, Lt. Frank Stone, Rob Richardson, Lee Yaffe-Stark, Pierre-Marie Longkeng, Mara Parker, Len Newman, Lillie Brown, Lt. S. Flynn, Howard bell, Dan Wilhelm, Mensah Adjogah, Rhondalyn Cox.

Staff Present: Jewru Bandeh, Linda Cooper

Community Comments: Guests and members of the community introduced themselves and a few made comments on issues including staffing levels for police and response to calls, public safety and community well-being.

Approval of the September 5, 2018 Meeting Summary: A motion was made to approve the September 5, 2018 meeting summary. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Board Elections: Board members voted on the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Parliamentarian in accordance with established ECCAB election procedures. Christopher Bolton was voted in as Chair, Richard Romer as Vice Chair, Kristina McConnell as Secretary and Jerold Samet as Parliamentarian.

Montgomery County Police: Lt. Frank Stone gave a brief presentation on current crime statistics for the 3rd District:

- The 3rd District has been relatively quiet with Hillandale a bit busier;
- The biggest crime as a whole continues to be theft from autos;
- On Wednesday, October 10, 2018; the 3rd District will give a presentation on the prevention of theft from autos. There is a community presentation every month. Joey Patillo is the contact for presentations;
- There were two domestic crimes in the last four weeks;
- Lt. Stone and Lt. Flynn addressed questions regarding crime, traffic, and officer safety.

Lt. Stacey Flynn gave a brief presentation on current crime statistics for the 4th District:

- There have been three crimes in the last four weeks including one murder-suicide;
- Fall tends to be a tough time for people. People are encouraged to be familiar with the crisis center and services available;

- Emergency protection orders are now law. A person can remove guns from the home of a person in crisis;
- Our division has had a lot of pedestrian collisions;
- Firearms Bill – Oct. 1, 2018: If convicted of a crime of violence, defendant will be asked to turn over any firearms that she/he owns or possesses within two business days
- Lt. Flynn and Lt. Stone addressed questions regarding K2 overdoses, illegal fireworks, and a car accident involving an employee of the FDA.

Montgomery County East County Regional Office Director Jewru Bandeh provided a brief report, including:

- Information regarding the Montgomery County Planning Department and FDA Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the expansion plan for its Headquarters is available online and at the White Oak Public Library;
- A question was asked regarding the County's comment on the EIS input was incorporated into US General Services Administration (FDA Expansion) plan. Yes, the County Department of Transportation comments were submitted.
- The 2018 East County will take place on October 17, 2018. Last year there were about 80 job recruiters and about 600 job seekers;
- The ribbon cutting for the Good Hope Recreation Center will take place on October 10, 2018;
- Jewru Bandeh emailed the acknowledgment of support letter to the County for its TIGER grant application from the U.S. Department of Transportation (addressed to Peter Myo Khin) to the Board.

Montgomery County Council Report: Mara Parker discussed two issues coming up:

- The County Council's Office of Legislative Oversight conducted a study of the community grants program, and there is a public meeting about it Tuesday, October 9, 2018;
- Tom Hucker, Councilmember, District 5 and Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Councilmember At-Large will have a meeting October 15, 2018 regarding the savings plan on fire and rescue. There are projected service cuts which would include not back-filling paramedics on overtime during non-peak hours. About 180 people may be affected.
- She mentioned that the Family Justice Center in Rockville is a resource for victims of domestic violence.

Brian Anleu discussed two issues:

- Small cell antennas - There will be a work session Tuesday, October 9, 2018 regarding adding them and their proximity to communities and homes;
- Discussion around accessory apartments is underway. Issues being considered are capacity, density, schools, and the temporary nature of these apartments.
- He also mentioned the issue regarding development moratorium due to an overflow in the school system. Discussion pursued on how this extends to East County. It was stated

Blair High School is the only school over capacity at 120%. A community member stated Burnt Mills Elementary is under the moratorium and a decision has been made to let it be over capacity.

ECCAB Sub-Committees Chairs for Planning/Economic Development and Quality of Life

Updates: William Bentley reported that the Quality of Life Committee met on September 12, 2018 and identified 6 areas to focus on for this term. Donald Hague reported that the PED Committee met on September 10, 2018 and also identified 6 areas to focus on for this term.

New Business:

- Christopher Bolton gave a review of the ECCAB retreat
- William Bentley requested a status of the county tour for the Board. Jewru Bandeh advised he is gathering resources and is shooting for the end of 2018/early 2019.
- Margruetta Hall advised there was a Hillandale meeting regarding a slip ramp being proposed by the developer as an option for traffic improvement in Hillandale. Jewru Bandeh advised he had a meeting Wednesday regarding proposed transportation improvements, and there were several recommendations being discussed. Jewru Bandeh and the White Oak Implementation Coordinator are working with the Department of Transportation and the Hillandale community. The next ECCAB board agenda will include a discussion on this issues.
- Richard Romer posed a question regarding whether specific, single community projects are within the purview of the Board. Jewru Bandeh advised the Board establishes its priorities to focus on, thus establishing its agendas and discussion points.

Old Business: Mara Parker, Montgomery County Council Staff, advised this is her last ECCAB meeting in her current role. She has been coming to report for the last 10 years. She will not be at the next meeting.

Adjournment: This meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.